

Elk Point REVIEW

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Tuesday, December 15, 2009

Vol. 29 No. 50 • \$1 (GST incl.)

PM40069240 R10645

School Board

Balances budget

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Win times two

For Bantam Avalanche

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**Six churches join
in Cantata**

...Page 3



Vicki Brooker photo

Choir celebrates first Christmas in its new home

Elk Point Community Choir celebrated the first Christmas in its new home, the Elk Point Arts and Leisure Centre, on Friday night with its 19th annual Christmas Concert. Director Udo Mueller lead the choir in song as another busy year for the vocal group nears a tuneful end. More from the concert, Page 6.

Water line projects going ahead

By JANICE HUSER

Review Contributor

The quality of water for those living in Elk Point and Lottie Lake could increase exponentially in the near future, as County of St. Paul council made the decision to begin the process of applying for grants for two new water lines, at the last regular council meeting on Dec. 9.

After exploring the options available at Lottie Lake, council agreed that installing a water line that would run from Ashmont to the hamlet of Lottie Lake would be the best, long-term solution.

"If we can get funding, the best bang for our buck is to put in the water," said Reeve Robert Bouchard. The project is tagged at \$4.6 million, but 90 per cent of the costs would be covered by a Water for Life grant, leaving the county with a \$500,000 bill.

"Our cost to run the line is less than the

original cost of upgrading the Lottie Lake plant," said Coun. Cliff Martin.

A motion to move forward with the project and apply for the Water for Life grant was approved by council.

Also, the County of St. Paul and Town of Elk Point are working on installing a joint water line, worth over \$7 million. Two million dollars will also be spent on upgrading the Town of St. Paul water treatment plant, as part of the project.

Council approved a motion to support the Water for Life grant application that is being submitted by the Town of Elk Point, and agreed to pay 20 per cent of the unfunded portion of the water line, which will cost the county about \$140,000.

Facility grants

A number of community halls, including facilities in Boscombe, Heinsburg and Mallaig, will receive increases in the recre-

ational facilities grant they receive from the County of St. Paul.

Administration looked at the rising costs of insurance and other costs being paid by the community halls to operate, and made recommendations on how much to give the community centers.

Also, agricultural societies in St. Paul, Elk Point, and Mallaig will receive additional funding, along with the Stoney Lake facility, which isn't a registered agricultural society but runs a number of rodeo events throughout the year.

Wood

No free wood will be distributed to any user groups, as per a new policy set out by the County of St. Paul in response to the abuse of free wood. At last month's regular council meeting, council decided to charge campers, who are staying at county-operated parks, for wood.

This month, council passed a motion to deny free wood to any other sites. But, it was also noted in the discussions that groups could apply for a small grant to help cover costs of the firewood.

Lac Santé Area Structure Plan

Bylaw 1542, the Lac Sante Area Structure Plan, received its first reading in council chambers last week. Now, a public hearing will be held on Jan. 22 at Brosseau Hall at 7 p.m. before further readings are given to the bylaw.

"The purpose of the ASP development exercise was to assess the demographic make-up and physical and social environments of the Lac Santé community, and further, to link these factors with environmental best practices in order to establish a sustainable vision to guide existing and future development at Lac Santé," says the plan.

(Continued on Page 2)



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"Wishing you happiness, peace and joy throughout this Christmas season."

Water line projects

(Continued from Front Page)

Goals and management principles have been set out in the plan.

ELK POINT REALTY SHOWCASE

NEW HOME - QUALITY CONSTRUCTION



styrofoam block construction. MLS # 001114196

NEW HOME. Modern design is highlighted with top quality cabinets and counter tops in the kitchen and frosted glass railing separating the stairway from the living room. The property also includes a 14 x 14 deck, a finished driveway and finished basement with

\$317,000

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WELL BUILT HOME. Located in a quiet area of Elk Point. Upgrades include shingles, hot water tank, washer, fridge and stove. The home has 4 bedrooms and a partially finished basement. MLS # 0021113949

\$218,500



EXCELLENT LOCATION. Affordable upgraded 2 bedroom home complemented with a fenced yard and a large, insulated double garage. Finished basement with a rec room and large laundry room. A must see. Priced to sell. MLS # 0014396493

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NEWLY RENOVATED HOME ON A LARGE LOT. Upgrades include flooring, painting, bathroom, basement light fixtures, new fence, new deck (16 x 20), exterior finish etc. The property also has a 24 x 28 garage with a large door

\$254,500

for inside RV parking. MLS # 0015029689

COUNTRY LIVING AT ITS FINEST



LEAVE THE WORLD BEHIND AND ENTER YOUR DREAM PROPERTY. Uniquely designed 3 bedroom home with walk out basement. Fireplaces located in the dining room, living room and rec room. Property features a guest house (Potential for revenue), private tennis court, groomed walking/ski trails, barn, and oil revenue. Fridge, stove, washer and dryer and window coverings included. MLS # 0022494207

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FARM & HOME FOR SALE. Quarter section of land and 1485 sq. ft. home with double attached garage. Property is fenced and cross fenced. 100 acres is open with hay and pasture. Includes corrals, waterers and cattle shelter. There are also grain bins, a quonset, machine shed, barn and summer kitchen. The large beautiful yard is well groomed and includes too many fruit trees to mention. This is truly living in your own park. MLS # 0023724850

\$599,000

ACREAGE



MLS # 0033616054

COUNTRY LIVING WITH TOWN AMENITIES. 3.2 acres with services from the Village of Myrnam. The property has a two bedroom home, a smaller home for guests or a studio and several out buildings. The school is across the road. Windows have been replaced.

\$169,900

PREMIUM INDUSTRIAL PROPERTIES



INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY. Includes a 40' x 130' (5200 sq. ft.) shop located on 1.03 acres in the Elk Point Industrial Park. The building has 14' x 16' doors on each end. There is 3 phase power, a concrete floor with drain and sump and equipment required to operate as a wash bay. The parking and storage area is compacted and gravelled. The property is adjacent to a 5400 sq ft shop with offices on a .68 acre lot that is also available. (mls #0012077996)

\$380,000



INDUSTRIAL SHOP IN ELK POINT. This 50' x 108' (5400 sq. ft.) shop includes 3 phase power, offices, staff room, storage rooms and a large reception area. The property consists of .68 acres of compacted and gravelled parking and storage space. The property is adjacent to a 5200 sq ft shop on 1.03 acres that can be purchased as a package. (mls # 0012077970). MLS # 0012077996

\$395,000



Don Conrad



Larry Demchuk



Sharon Smith



Ron Smith

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Boat launch

A boat launch at Lac Sante being developed by Brongall Developments is moving forward. Brongall Developments has applied for the license to develop the board launch, said Coun. Maxine Fodness, who noted there were concerns about the project.

"There's opposition to put that boat launch in that subdivision," said Fodness.

It was noted at the council meeting that it is normal procedure that the county take care of the launch after it is developed. The situation is similar to when a developer builds a road, heard council.

A motion to accept ownership of the boat launch was carried, with only Fodness opposed.

Flyers Society

Council decided to deny a request from the Elk Point Flyers Society for tax exemption on the land being used by the club. Council did discuss the possibility of letting the club know it could apply for a grant to help cover the costs of the taxes being charged on the land.

Interim budget

Council passed the 2010 interim budget last week, using the same numbers as last year's budget.

Library board

The County Library Board offered its budget to council last week, requesting a \$2,000 increase from the \$25,000 the county provides in funding to the board. The expenses haven't changed much, explained Kitz, as she reviewed the library board's financial statements.

Scrapers

Two scrapers will be purchased for the public works department, following discussions at last month's public works meeting. Two older scrapers will be traded in for a net amount of \$1.05 million to be paid from the 2010 budget.

County shrugs off 'derogatory remarks'

By JANICE HUSER

Review Contributor

At its Dec. 9 meeting, County of St. Paul council discussed a letter from ratepayer Amil Shapka in regards to the Oct. 26 plebiscite, where council decided not to pursue the request put forth by Shapka to press charges against a ratepayer in the Riverview area.

"Whether he was aware of it or not, Mr. Young's actions were both serious and unacceptable and are punishable under the Local Authorities Elections Act," said Shapka in a letter addressed to County of St. Paul CAO Sheila Kitz.

Kitz later explained that the issue began on Oct. 26, when county ratepayer Allen Young made some "derogatory remarks" regarding Shapka, while at a polling station. In his letter, Shapka states Young's actions "are punishable under the Local Authorities Elections Act (Sections 150.3, 150.9)."

The section states that no person shall: "during the hours when a voting station is open, canvass or solicit votes in a building where the voting station is located," or "make any communication to an elector in a voting station respecting the election otherwise than through the deputy."

Any person who contravenes the section is guilty of an offence and liable to face as much as a \$5,000 fine and/or imprisonment of not more than two years.

(Continued on Page 11)

Vehicle collides with home

By Cst. J. Spaans

Elk Point RCMP
Detachment

On Dec. 7 at 1:20 p.m., Elk Point RCMP, Fire and EMS attended a motor vehicle collision in Elk Point.

The elderly driver of the vehicle mistook the gas pedal for the brake and accelerated at a high rate of speed in the driveway. The vehicle drove forward into a parked vehicle, then

reversed quickly, crossing the street and striking the neighbour's house. There was extensive damage to the house and the vehicle. The elderly male was treated for injuries. Investigation

into the matter was ongoing.

Assaults

On Dec. 6 at 1 p.m., Elk Point RCMP responded to a disturbance at a residence n Fishing Lake. The suspect male became enraged at a female and began throwing objects around the house and punching holes in the walls. During the tirade, the male grabbed the female by the neck and pushed her into a corner. When members arrived, the male could not be located. Later in the afternoon, at 4 p.m., RCMP were contacted and were told that the male was back at the residence continuing the disturbance. The male was located and placed under arrest for assault. The 29-year-old Fishing Lake male was also found to be on an outstanding warrant as well as release conditions and now faces 13 criminal charges.

During the evening of Dec. 6, Elk Point RCMP and St. Paul EMS attended a rural residence near Elk Point in response to a complaint of an assault. Two females engaged in a verbal argument, which turned physical. One of the females was pinned to the ground and punched multiple times. The victim received serious but non-life-threatening injuries. A 21-year-old St. Paul female has been charged with assault. Investigation into the matter continues. Alcohol played a factor in the assault.

Drug search warrant

On Dec. 8, Elk Point RCMP conducted a search warrant on a residence north of Elk Point. During the search, a quantity of marijuana was seized along with a number of firearms. Investigation into the matter continues.

Merry Christmas

Please join MLA Ray Danyluk & staff for the

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE

4:00 - 7:30 pm

Unveiling of the 2010 Calendar

6:00 pm

Thursday, December 17, 2009

4434-50 Avenue, St. Paul

Everyone is Welcome!

Happy New Year!

Please note that our office will be closed Dec. 18 - Jan. 3 for the holiday season.

Six churches in Christmas Cantata

By VICKI BROOKER

Review Staff

Six area churches joined talents to present their annual gift of music at Sunday evening's Interfaith Cantata, this year hosted by Elk Point United Church.

Despite record low temperatures, a near-capacity crowd turned out to enjoy the annual event which director Holly Myshaniuk said is "one of my favourite events of the year."

Along with the host church, members of Elk Point

Christian Community Church, St. John the Baptist Church at Northern Valley, Holy Eucharist Ukrainian Catholic Church, St. Michael's Roman Catholic Church and St. Paul Roman Catholic Church took part in the evening of song, scripture readings and Nativity pageant.

Gabe Bayduza, Wanda Kryzanowski, Cheyenne Lawrence, John Bennett and Margaret Bayduza provided piano accompaniment, with Bernadette Godolin adding drums and harmonica and Jim Votour playing guitar.

Brooke Gormley read the age-old Christmas story as a

tired and trail-worn couple made their way slowly to Bethlehem, only to find there was no accommodation available other than a stable. With a blanket provided by the wife of the harried innkeeper, the couple were grateful for this humble shelter, which became the birthplace of the Lord Jesus.

Angels high above Brooke appeared to shepherds tending their flocks, and urged them to come to the stable to see the new arrival, and the big star led three kings to his side to present their gifts, before the combined choir sang their first number of the evening, "Away in a Manger."

Further numbers by the choir, "Violet in the Snow," "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing," "Do You Hear What I Hear?" "Lullaby, Sweet Jesus," "From a Distant Home" and "Follow Them to Bethlehem," were interspersed with scripture readings by Ed O'Kane, Olga Seniuk and June Pettipas, carols the congregation joined in and some very special numbers.

Two Ukrainian Christmas carols, "God Eternal" and "There is Joy in Bethlehem," came from Margaret Bayduza, Kay Wozniak, Orest and Darlene Sereda and Bernadette Godolin, under the direction of Mary Bezpalko.

The youngest members of St. Michael's Roman Catholic congregation came forward with their rhythm instruments to offer "Ring Little Bells."

United Church Junior Choir member Olivia Leaf changed the tempo with a Hebrew song, sung a capella, "Al Shidsha D'Varim."

The most outstanding performance of all came from the Junior Choir with their rendition of "Ave Maria," in Latin and English, with one English verse written by Myshaniuk, who had never before attempted to write a song, and who said "the words came to me so fast I could hardly write them down." The Junior Choir dedicated the number to the late Grace Pinder, longtime coordinator of the United Church rummage store and a staunch supporter of both the church and the Junior Choir.

Following a benediction by Pastor Bill Kryzanowski, the Cantata ended with their traditional recessional, a multi-lingual version of Silent Night.



Vicki Brooker photos

Director Holly Myshaniuk and the massed choir from six area churches presented a gift of music at their annual Interfaith Cantata at the Elk Point United Church on Sunday evening. More photos, Page 12.



Margaret Bayduza, Kay Wozniak, Orest and Darlene Sereda, Bernadette Godolin and Mary Bezpalko sing a pair of Ukrainian carols, "God Eternal" and "There is Joy in Bethlehem."

Light judging tomorrow

By VICKI BROOKER
Review Staff

Elk Point residents are reminded to turn on all their Christmas lights and fine-tune their outdoor decorations in preparation for tomorrow night's judging, which will take

place at some time during the evening of Wednesday, Dec. 16.

Once again this year, the Elk Point Chamber of Commerce will be sponsoring prizes of \$300, \$200 and \$100 for the three winning displays.

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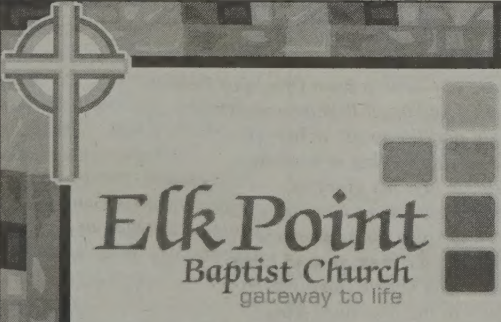
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**Sunday School
Christmas Programs**
December 20, 2009
at 10:00 a.m.

Lunch to follow. Everyone welcome!

**Christmas Eve
Service**
7:00 p.m.
Everyone Welcome!

EDITORIAL

Tremendous talent

Elk Point is not only rich in caring people, it is a community rich in talent that is shared freely and joyfully within the region and beyond.

Elk Point Community Choir has just completed their 19th season, and are performing in numerous locations again this Christmas season. Next year, as they celebrate their major milestone, not only will they host special events for local audiences, they are once again packing up to go on tour, this time heading half way around the world to perform in the British Isles.

A number of the choir members have been with the group from the beginning, but as the years continue to pass, there is no doubt that newcomers are waiting in the wings. Take, for example, the United Church Youth Choir and Sunday's rendition of 'Ave Maria,' which gave a glimpse of greatness to come. Awesome!

WAY BACK WHEN...

Moving day, more land, merry little concert

HERE'S THE NEWS THAT MADE THE HEADLINES OF THE LAKELAND REVIEW AND THE ELK POINT REVIEW FOR THE WEEK OF DEC. 15 IN...

1984

Owners of trailers located on temporary lots would be receiving letters from town council informing them that the mobile home subdivision was now complete and that they must move their trailers within one month. The Energy Resources Conservation Board approved Dome Petroleum's application for a 15-well project and steam plant southeast of Elk Point.

1989

The Town of Elk Point took the first step toward a major development by giving first reading to a bylaw rezoning 30 acres of Alberta Mortgage and Housing's north subdivision from urban reserve to direct control district for development of an agricultural pavilion and recreational area. Elk Point Elementary School students donated a heaping hamper of groceries and \$115 from hot food sales to Santas Anonymous.

1994

Sandra Woytkiw of Northbound 41 accepted the chamber of commerce Small Business Persons of the Year award. Cooperative property owners saved the town more than \$3,000 in debenture interest by paying their share on new curb and gutter up front rather than over a five-year period.

1999

Elk Point went all out for the biggest Extravaganza of the century on a balmy evening, featuring a display of exotic animals, a petting zoo, a gingerbread house competition, tractor-drawn hay rides and musical entertainment by a band called, "Who's Your Daddy?" Elk Point Christian Community Church welcomed in the 1999 concert season with music by adult and youth choirs.

2004

Elk Point Chamber of Commerce volunteers counted and sorted almost 3,000 draw slips to determine that 70.6 per cent of shoppers came from Elk Point and surrounding area, 9.5 per cent from St. Paul, and 8.9 per cent from Heinsburg, Frog Lake and Fishing Lake. The students were the stars as Heinsburg's elementary grades hosted a merry little concert for their families.



GUEST COLUMN

Lowly shepherds

A part of the Christmas story loved by child and adult alike is the narration concerning the humble shepherds who were the first to hear the announcement of the Christ child's birth. We love to think of their amazement and delight, and we love to think on the nature of a Father who would choose lowly shepherds to receive this announcement. There is an older, not as well known, Christmas Hymn that refers to lowly shepherds. Nahum Tate and his friend Nicholas Brady are known in the history of English hymns for their collaboration on a new metrical version of the psalms. It appeared in 1696 and soon supplanted the older hymnals of the Church of England. By 1700, Nahum Tate and Nicholas Brady had published a supplement to their psalm volume that included sixteen new hymn texts based on other scriptural passages, including "While Shepherds watch Their Flocks." That hymn text is a poetic rendering of the visit of the angels to the shepherds as told in Luke 2:8-14, and is by Nahum Tate alone, without the help of his collaborator. Today, the text is popular throughout the English-speaking world and is paired in various hymnals with several different tunes, of which Yorkshire Melody is one of the most familiar.

*While shepherds watch'd their flocks by night,
All seated on the ground,
The angel of the Lord came down,
And glory shone around
'Fear not,' said he, for mighty dread
Had seized their troubled mind;
'Glad tidings of great joy I bring
To you and all man kind.'*

The Elk Point Review publishes a variety of opinions as a contribution to debate on matters of public concern. Unsigned editorials express the view of this newspaper's editorial board which includes the Publisher and the Editor. Signed pieces express the view of the individual writer.



deanna
EASTHOPE
from the FCSS desk

*"To you, in David's town this day,
Is born of David's line*

*The Savior who is Christ the Lord,
And this shall be the sign:
The heav'nly Babe you there shall find
To human view displayed,
All meanly wrapped in swathing bands,
And in a manger laid."
Thus spake the seraph, and forthwith
Appeared a shining throng
Of angels praising God who thus
Addressed their joyful song:*

*"All glory be to God on high
And on the earth be peace.
Good will henceforth from heav'n to men
Begin and never cease."*

Speaking of Christmas Hymns that refer to the shepherds, most of you probably know the following hymn: Hark! The Herald angels Sing with text by Charles Wesley (1708 - 1788) and music by Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

*Hark! The herald angels sing,
Glory to the new born King!
Peace on earth and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!
Joyful, all ye nations, rise;
Join the triumph of the skies;
With th'angelic host proclaim
Christ is born in Bethlehem!
Hark! The herald angels sing
Glory to the new-born King!*

*Hail! The heav'n born Prince of Peace!
Hail! The Son of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
Ris'n with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by,
Born that man no more may die;
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing
Glory to the new born King!*

ELK POINT REVIEW

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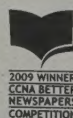


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School board presents balanced budget

By SHAUNA BURKE
Review Contributor

A summary of the audited financial statement for 2008 – 2009 school year presented at the St. Paul Education Division (SPERD) school board meeting, held on Dec. 9, indicated a small surplus of \$280,070.

All key areas of the budget, including operating and maintenance of schools, bussing and administration showed a surplus except instruction, which pays teacher salaries. There was a \$1,371,186 deficit for the instructional budget and because there was only \$36,005 in the instruction reserve, surpluses from the other areas were used to offset the losses of instruction.

"Our primary concern is keeping teachers in front of kids," superintendent Glen Brodziak stated in a phone interview after the board meeting. "A large part of our budget always goes to teachers' salaries but there is no doubt that the focus is keeping our class sizes as small as possible. That is always at the top of our list."

"There are a lot of factors that come into play on our budget, so really this is just a snapshot taken Aug. 30, 2009," explained Jean Champagne, secretary treasurer for SPERD, during the board meeting. He added that the 2008 – 2009 surplus represents about half of a percent of the total budget so "if the goal is to spend all of the resources allocated to us, that is about as close as it gets."

There were a lot of one-time grants that were used for equipment but with the changes in the provincial economy, Champagne expects that those will no longer be available.

Budget

Champagne said that budget projections for the 2009 – 2010 are not as optimistic as the last year. Between reductions in provincial funding and reserve clawbacks, the school is looking at about a million dollar deficit, Champagne warned.

Darrell Younghans, chairman for the school board, reported on a recent presentation by the minister of Education Dave Hancock.

"He did say that there are cuts coming but he has backed away from the fig-

ure of 300 million," said Younghans. "It's a plan for the worst and hope for the best kind of situation."

School Calendar

The board reviewed a first draft of next year's school calendar, which will now be forwarded to parent councils and school staff for their input and recommendations for changes. It is hoped that the calendar will be finalized by February.

"There are a few changes

with an additional teacher day in August and an additional teacher day in June. We also added some professional development days in September and early November so teachers can get together and share ideas," reported Pat Rivard, assistant superintendent for SPERD. "There are 184.5 instructional and 198 operational days."

Infrastructure survey

Alberta School Boards

Association (ASBA) is requesting input from school boards on ideas regarding infrastructure. SPERD decided to let trustee Steve Upham complete the questionnaire as it was felt that he had good ideas on the topic.

"I think that the infrastructure budget gets bled out, building schools in large urban areas like Edmonton and Calgary where they have new hous-

ing developments," said Upham by phone after the board meeting. "In many instances, they knock down pretty good schools in older residential areas in the middle of the city."

He said one possible solution might be to put a levee on new housing developments in cities to cover the costs of building new schools. That would free up existing infrastructure money for communities

that just want to renovate or really need to replace run down schools.

"We are continually playing second fiddle to the urban pressure of new developments which carry a lot of votes and political power," Upham pointed out.

He said that he would compose a response and share it with the other board members prior to sending it in to ASBA.



Notice of Application

Fifth Avenue Place
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Calgary, Alberta T2P 3L8

Town of Elk Point
Application No. 1605632

AltaGas Utilities Inc.
Application No. 1605633

TAKE NOTICE that the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) may continue to process these applications without further notice if no valid objections are received on or before **January 4, 2010.**

An application has been filed with the AUC by the Town of Elk Point (Elk Point) for approval to renew its natural gas distribution franchise agreement (agreement) with AltaGas Utilities Inc. (AltaGas). The agreement gives AltaGas the exclusive right to deliver natural gas to the residents of Elk Point for 10 years.

The agreement has been based on a standard natural gas franchise agreement commonly used in the province. The terms of the agreement have changed substantially from previously approved franchise agreements. Some of the noteworthy changes include a change in responsibility for utility relocation costs caused by municipal purposes, provision of extra services, options for purchase of the distribution system by the municipality, and provisions respecting third party use of the distribution system.

The agreement also requires AltaGas to pay Elk Point property taxes as well as a franchise fee for use of rights of way. Previously AltaGas only paid a franchise fee in lieu of property taxes. Franchise fees and property taxes are collected through the property & franchise fee on customer billings.

Between the years 2004 and 2008 the franchise fee, on average accounted for about \$87.00 of the annual bill for an average residential customer and in 2009 the collection for the franchise fee and property taxes would account for about \$104.00 of the yearly bill.

The franchise fee provided in the proposed agreement would initially be set at 16.00 per cent of the non-gas components of customers' bills, which are the fixed charge and base energy charge on residential bills. The combination of the property tax and franchise fee changes would increase the yearly billing for an average residential customer in Elk Point by about \$18.00 from the amount paid in 2008. An average residential customer uses about 135 GJ annually. Customers should contact AltaGas if they would like more specific details regarding how this change will affect their bill.

The agreement further allows the Town of Elk Point to increase the level of the franchise fee at its own discretion on an annual basis, without any further review by the AUC. However the agreement does not allow Elk Point to impose a franchise fee above 35 per cent. Therefore, if Elk Point implemented the maximum franchise fee at current rates for distribution, yearly billings of an average residential customer in the Town would increase by about \$98.00 from the amount paid with the initial fee.

AltaGas has applied to the AUC for approval to revise its rates so that the costs resulting from the franchise fee and property tax clauses included in the agreement can be recovered from customers in Elk Point.

Additional Information

To view or print a copy of Application Nos. 1605632 and 1605633 enter the application number using the application search found under the E-Filing Services & Regulatory Document search directly accessible from the AUC website home page www.auc.ab.ca. Alternatively, use the following URL links to access the applications:

https://www.auc.ab.ca/eub/dds/iar_query/ApplicationAttachments.aspx?AppNumber=1605632
https://www.auc.ab.ca/eub/dds/iar_query/ApplicationAttachments.aspx?AppNumber=1605633

To obtain additional information or a paper copy of the application, contact the applicant at:

The Town of Elk Point, PO Box 448, Elk Point, Alberta T0A 1A0; Attention: Mr. Myron Goyan, Manager; Telephone: 780-724-3810; Fax: 780-724-2762

- or -

AltaGas Utilities Inc., 5509 - 45 Street, Leduc, Alberta T9E 6T6, Attention: Mr. Mark Filteau, Supervisor Business Development; Telephone: 780-980-6772; Fax: 780-986-5220

For information about AUC procedures contact Wanda Goudy, Rates Division, at the number listed below.

To File a Submission

Any party with concerns respecting Application Nos. 1605632 or 1605633 should submit a Statement of Intent to Participate (SIP) letter setting out your name or organization name, address or legal land description, telephone number and e-mail address (if available).

Please note that the SIP submission must contain:

- description of the nature of the party's interest in the proceeding (i.e. how the party will be affected by the Commission's decision); and
- statement describing the party's eligibility for cost recovery in light of the "business interest" rule contained in section 3 of the AUC Rules on Intervener Costs.

One copy of your SIP letter should be directed to the applicant using the contact information above and one copy submitted to the AUC.

Pursuant to Section 13 of the AUC Rules of Practice, all documents filed in respect of this proceeding, including any submissions or other documents filed prior to the commencement of the proceeding must be placed on the public record unless otherwise ordered by the Commission, subject to the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. Your SIP letter and any other documents you file will be accessible to the public and all other participants in the proceeding through the AUC Website. Please ensure that the document you file is free of information that you do not want to appear on a public record.

Electronic copies of the SIP letters can be directed to:

E-mail: Filings@auc.ab.ca

Subject: Application Nos. 1605632 & 1605633

Paper copies can be sent to:

Wanda Goudy, Rates Division, Alberta Utilities Commission, 10055 - 106 Street 10th Floor, Edmonton, Alberta T5J 2Y2; Telephone: (780) 427-4903; Fax: (780) 427-6970;

E-mail: wanda.goudy@auc.ab.ca

The AUC may grant the application without further process if no bona fide objections are filed by persons or organizations considered by the AUC to be directly or adversely affected by the proposal.

Issued at Calgary, Alberta, on December 9, 2009.

www.auc.ab.ca

Douglas A. Larder, Q.C. General Counsel





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Choir director Udo Mueller (right) took his turn at performing behind the microphone as he and his "angels" performed an a capella barbershop rendition of "Pretty Little Jesus" for the concert crowd.

Choir a delight on a cold and wintry Friday night

BY VICKI BROOKER
Review Staff
Elk Point and District Community Choir brought

the joy of the season to the Arts and Leisure Centre Friday night with their 19th Annual Christmas Concert. Although the crowd was a bit smaller than some years due to record cold temperatures, a good number braved the weather to join the choir for their first concert in their new and permanent home.

Don Conrad offered a warm welcome and unveiled some of the plans for the choir's 20th year, which includes a tour of Wales, Ireland and Scotland in early August, as well as spring and Christmas concerts featuring "commemorative music we've done in the past."

The choir started off with a capella versions of "Music Brings Joy" and "Bright Morning Star," the latter a Kentucky folk song with solos by Amy Collins and Barb Buryn.

From the slow and gentle

"In the Bleak Midwinter", the choir moved to a merging of two songs, the men singing "Child of the Poor" and the ladies "What Child is This," then the two songs dovetailed together.

Barb Buryn took over the piano bench from Deanna Easthope for a sprightly and far-from-traditional rendition of "Let Heaven and Nature Sing."

The first half of the concert ended with "Still a Bach Lullaby," featuring a flute solo by Robyn Sieben.

Kerry Anderson played and sang a Celtic carol, "Light the Candle," in the first of several special numbers, and stayed at the piano to accompany her fellow members of the Harmony group, Shirley Osinchuk, Sarah Osinchuk and Cheryl Kurash as they sang "Watching Over Me" and "Jesus, the Light of the World."

Linda Peters took over the piano to accompany Erica Spoeth as she played "O Holy Night" on cello.

A men's quartet calling themselves 'Udo's Angels' sang "Pretty Little Jesus" in barbershop style, and were joined by Kerry Anderson on piano and Bob Palinka on guitar for "Not Just Any Night."

Following a short sing-along with the audience, the choir was back with the traditional "Once in Royal David's City" and "Shepherd, Do You Sleep?" with solos by Rocky Wollbaum and Barb Buryn. A spirited accompaniment by Buryn on piano, Amy Collins on drum and Leslie Keith with the shaker added to their rendition of "Like the Beat of a Drum." The concert ended with two favourite numbers, the lovely "Carol of the Bells" and "Silent is the Night."



Kerry Anderson got some page-turning help from Sarah Osinchuk as she sang and played a Celtic carol.

Vicki Brooker photos

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Elk Point Co-op Christmas Coloring Contest

OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM

Child's Name _____

Age _____

Address _____

Phone _____

You can drop off or pick up entry forms at
the Elk Point Co-op.

CONTEST RULES:

1. Contest is open to children ages 4 - 10. Older children or adults may not assist in coloring, but may assist in filling out the entry form.
2. Crayons, poster paints, colored pencils or felt-tip pens may be used.
3. Entries will be judged on use of color, neatness and overall appearance.
4. All entries become non-returnable property of St. Paul and District Co-op and must be received in our administration office on or before December 22.
5. Decision of the judges will be final.

1st, 2nd & 3rd prizes will be awarded

Bantam Avs win a pair

Winning two games in a row doesn't seem like such a big deal, unless of course you're a Maple Leafs fan, but for the Bantam Avalanche it is a sign that after a rough start to the season, good things are starting to happen for this team. If you take into account the two wins in their tournament last weekend, including winning the B final, the bantams have now won four in a row and to top it off, they have used both of their goaltenders to do it, which is another positive sign.



**doug
BASSETT**
Review Sports

On a frigid Friday night the bantam boys hosted Bonnyville, winning this one 3 to 1. Stinky Brayden "Mr. Scrooge" Vinge was as tight as ever in his bank and showed no mercy for the needy, he gave the BV boys some bad nightmares with his timely stops. Jared "Snipes" McGilvery finding the twine with two goals, assisted by the Garrett brothers, "Dan the Man" and Brandon the "Snake", Davis Desjarlais adding a single, assisted by the "Doctor" on call, Dakota Amyotte.

On Saturday afternoon the Avalanche bundled up and traveled in convoy east across the border into Paradise Hill, Sask. to play Hillmond, coming out on top in this one 6 to 4. Rookie goalie Brandon Bourne was between the pipes and doing an awesome job. Brandon is only a peewee aged player and won the game over Cold Lake last weekend, which I missed to mention in last week's write up. This is a great experience for the young netminder who doesn't even flinch one bit when facing the tougher shooters in the bantam league. "Too tall" Tell May with a tally times two, "Snipes" was on a tear again, he pulled the trigger and found the target with two, too, Davis Desjarlais buried another one in the back of the cage and the team captain "Dan the Man" lit the lamp with one, as well as a couple of set-ups. The "twin D combo," the Jenner boys, also know by many as the "Bruise Brothers" Matt and Andy, shutting them down at the blue line and adding some offence too, with a couple of helpers each and another peewee aged player who's doing a heck of a job at this level and is somewhat of a pest for the opposition I'm sure, Han Lo Pitteljon picking up a point with an assist.

Back at home at the Dome on Saturday afternoon, the Atom Avalanche hosted the St. Paul Canadiens. The

Canadiens came out strong and caught the Avalanche with their pants down, scoring a few quick ones in the first five minutes on goalie Matthew Mahoney, who strapped on the pads for the first time this year, but Matthew settled in after the first period and came up with some sensational saves later in the game. The Avalanche, a little deflated after the early goals, took a while to get going, but scored two in the second and another three in the third, all by "the Flying Bull" Brodin Ference. Chad Poiras, who's starting to play a little more aggressive style, with an assist. Defense tandem Amy Harms and Chansie Botting on many occasions carried the puck out of their end of the rink, both of them assisted on goals. Taylor Pankiw and Sydney Letwin the other two blue line partners, play more of stay-at-home style and were both rock solid, shutting down the Canadiens' attackers dead in their tracks.

And, let it be known, that although Austin "Ozzy" Stafford was not in on the scoring as far as the game sheet is concerned, he's showing some greatly improved skating, stick handling and overall effort this year, his fore checking forced many turnovers, which in my mind is as good as any assist.

The Micro Novice, those brave little souls, ventured out into the deep freeze on Saturday traveling to the border city, to play in a great Tim Bits tournament there at the beautiful Common Wealth Center. Jackie Ludlage reports that our Micro Novice team took part in an 18-team tournament. They lost both games against Lloyd Timbits and Lloyd Tim Hortons. In the first game vs Lloyd Timbits, Liam Ludlage scored a Hat Trick, Jaden Van Maarion score his first goal and Keaton Hawryluk and Brandon Goertzen also scored. Jaden Van Maarion was an amazing goalie. After the first game there was an exciting Booster Juice Shoot Out. Each player had the opportunity to go and shoot on the other team's goalie - an absolute highlight! This shoot out brought first time goals for many of our players and the biggest smiles EVER!

First time goals for Danny Cardinal. Our goalies, Jaden Van Maarion and Jace Stafford successfully shut down the other team during the shoot out! What a game highlight!

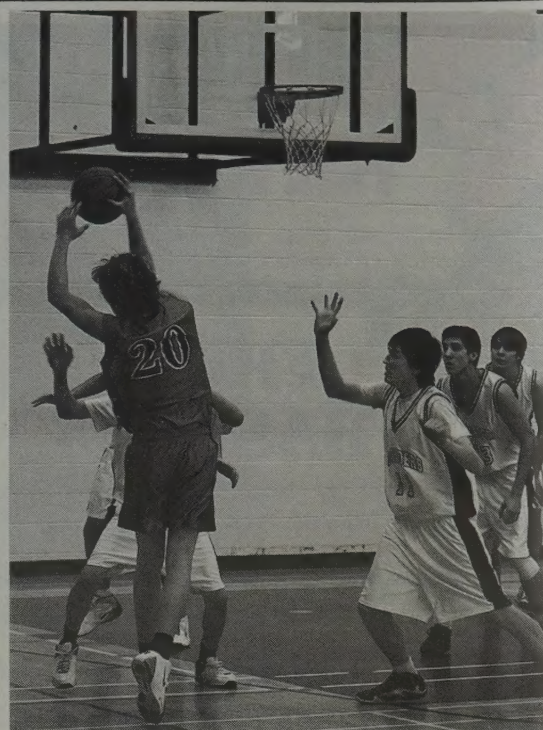
In the second game vs Lloyd Tim Hortons, Jace Stafford scored two goals and Keaton Hawryluk a single. Each player was given a hockey necklace keepsake and medallion.

Overall, it was a fabulous weekend filled with Tim Hortons coffee and smiling little hockey players!

The Novice # 1 team's game against the Vermilion Tigers in Vermilion on Saturday along with the Midget Girls Storm game here against Lloydminster on Saturday night were both postponed. The Novice # 2 team had a weekend off and will be playing here in town next Sunday afternoon, and hopefully the weather will give us a break by then. Until then, lets be good out there, cause Santa's watching!!!!

And now for the K.A. Campbell quote of the week. "Hockey is just a game, my family comes first." Last week's answer to: "I've held women and babies, jewels and money, but nothing will ever feel as good as holding that Cup." - Wayne Gretzky.

Please email any sports news scoops to sportshound007@hotmail.com.



Janice Huser photos

The F. G. Miller Crusaders boys' basketball team was a last-minute entry in the St. Paul Regional High School basketball tournament on Dec. 11 and 12, due to a number of teams dropping out because of the cold weather. The Crusaders took on Westlock in their first game of the tournament on Friday but the Westlock boys would be the ultimate victor as the team would go on to win the tournament.



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Show and tell!



Scrappy snowmen highlight a plaid ragtime quilt crafted by Verona Lea Flanders.



Vicki Brooker photos

Holiday season busy at Heritage Lodge

By HEATHER PAQUETTE
Activity Director

We had some excitement at our Halloween party! A Lone Stranger Sheriff showed up and arrested two of the bad actors! He/She not only arrested them – the sheriff also shot them at close range with a water pistol, much to the amusement of the rest of the residents. On the real All Hallow's Eve, Oct. 31, residents handed out treats to 39 little goblins who came trick or treating.

In November, we made perogies on Nov. 3 and nalesnyky on Nov. 24 with out cooking volunteers and some of the lodge residents. Our Auxiliary meeting was on Nov. 3 and we continue to look for new volunteers to join us with their ideas and help in making a difference. We had some Remembrance Day brain teasers on Nov. 11 and did some remembering of those times during World War II. I learned a lot from the residents. The craft and gift sale on Nov. 17 in our lounge was not well attended, but the crafts and gifts were absolutely awesome! We traveled in our armchairs to Germany and Eastern Europe on Nov. 27 with happy hour that same afternoon. The morning of Nov. 23 brought Mona back to needle us once again. Donna Chamberland offered a Watercolour for Beginners class in the puzzle room on Nov. 19 and 26. She had six students on the first day and four on the second and the watercolour paintings were just beautiful. I knew we had talent here! A clothing distributor also came to display and sell their wares.

Musical entertainment for the month was provided by Roy, Clayton and the Three Js on Nov. 7 and by Gabe Bayduza on Nov. 10 and 17. The music was enjoyed by all.

So far in December, Willie Osinchuk and the boys played for us on Dec. 1, and Avon calling brought Melanie with her display of gift items. The Ukrainian Dancers performed for us on Dec. 9 and our residents' party was on Dec. 11, with Roy, Clayton and the Three Js to entertain us. This is quite a change from most other years, but due to the H1N1, we thought it best to play it safe. Babe Sharkey will be playing on Dec. 17. Our armchair travels take us to Australia and New Zealand on Dec. 18 with happy hour later that same day. On Dec. 24, we will be doing our regular gift exchange. All those wanting to take part will bring a nicely wrapped or bagged gift, draw a number and be prepared to choose a gift from the pile or steal an already opened gift from another resident or staff member or have theirs stolen and have to either choose another one or steal another one. It's all in good fun and I hope many will take part. We will ring in the New Year at the New Year's Eve Gala on Dec. 31.



A wide variety of craft items have been created during the fall craft season at Elk Point Further Education, with more scheduled for spring.

OBITUARY

McLENNAN, Stephanie

On December 8, 2009 Mrs. Stephanie (Steffie) McLennan of Elk Point passed away at the age of 82 years.

She is survived by 2 daughters, Cathy (Doug) Lindquist of Elk Point & Connie (Brent) Wiley of Hinton; 2 grandchildren, Scott Lindquist & Erin Lindquist; 1 brother, Frank (Lorraine) Uchman of Edmonton; sister-in-law, Anne Uchman of Elk Point; also numerous nieces & nephews. She was predeceased by her husband, Thomas in 1997; 4 brothers, Andy Kornega, Charles Kornega, Stanley Uchman & Louis Uchman; & 1 sister, Helen Zarichuk.

A Memorial Service will be held Saturday, December 19 at 2:00 p.m. at Yewchin's Funeral Chapel, St. Paul with Reverend Lorraine Lambert officiating. Cremation has taken place. If desired, donations may be made to the Elk Point Auxiliary Hospital or Cross Cancer Institute (Research) c/o box 425, St. Paul, AB T0A 3A0.

Yewchin's Funeral Chapel Ltd. St. Paul. 1-780-645-5177.

OBITUARY

SCHUHMACHER, Alvina

On December 13, 2009 Mrs. Alvina Schuhmacher of Elk Point passed away at the age of 72 years.

She is survived by her loving husband of 53 years, Bill; 2 sons & 3 daughters, Brian (Peggy) of Vegreville, Richard (Cheri) of Vermilion, Monica (Dennis) of Slave Lake, Margaret (Lawrence) of St. Paul & Marlene (James) of Two Hills; 9 grandchildren; 5 great-grandchildren; 2 brothers, Alex Russ of Calgary & Eugene (Rose) Russ of Calgary; also 6 nieces & nephews. She was predeceased by her son-in-law, Dennis Romanchuk; & parents, Alexis & Sandra Russ.

A Prayer Service will be held Friday, December 18 at 7:30 p.m. at Elks Hall, Elk Point. A Funeral Service will be held Saturday, December 19 at 10:00 a.m. at Elks Hall, Elk Point. Reverend Father John Lipinski will be officiating with interment in St. Vladimir Ukrainian Orthodox Church Cemetery, Elk Point. If desired, donations may be made to the Elk Point Auxiliary Hospital, Haying in the 30's (Cancer Support Society) or the Cross Cancer Institute (Lung Cancer Research) c/o Box 425, St. Paul, AB T0A 3A0.

Yewchin's Funeral Chapel Ltd. St. Paul. 1-780-645-5177.

OBITUARY

PINDER, Grace Marion

On December 8, 2009, Mrs. Grace Marion Pinder of Elk Point passed away at the age of 90 years.

She is survived by 2 sons & 1 daughter, Kenneth James (Florence) Pinder of Elk Point, Gary Robert (Marilyn) Pinder of Tomahawk & Carol Susan (Warren) Van Nice of Ponoka; 6 grandchildren, Rhonda (Bill) Robson, Dale (Daleen) Pinder, Donna (Tyler) Gingras, Tracy (Deryk) Hamilton, Michelle (Douglas) Lemieux & Lori (Tony) Carroll; 10 great-grandchildren, Amanda & Nicole Lemieux, Kayla & Cole Hamilton, Kendal Robson, Dustin, Dallan & Dason Pinder, Rebecca & Justin Carroll; numerous nieces & nephews. She was predeceased by her husband, Donald, in 1993; parents, Robert & Isabella Lambie; brother, Tom Lambie; & sister Isa (Bill) Traver.

A Funeral Service was held on Monday, December 14 at 1:00 p.m. at the Elk Point United Church, Elk Point. Reverend Lorraine Lambert officiated with interment in Elk Point West Cemetery, Elk Point. If desired, donations may be made to Elk Point West Cemetery Fund or charity of one's choice c/o Box 425, St. Paul, AB T0A 3A0.

Yewchin's Funeral Chapel Ltd. St. Paul. 1-780-645-5177.

Further Education raffle winners Judy Clerk (right) and Sandy Kummetz were delighted with their prizes of a table runner and bright flannel quilt. The draw was made Wednesday at the Further Ed luncheon.



Cards for all occasions are a popular craft for those who take part in Elk Point Further Ed's classes.

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Pastor Jim MacLellan
Pastor Jason Goulet
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Sunday School - 11:15 a.m.
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or see our Website:
www.elkpointbaptistchurch.org

St. Vladimirs' Ukrainian Orthodox Church, Elk Point

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Bible Fellowship Church Clondonald

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510. Legal Notices

Notice to Creditors & Claimants
Estate of RONALD EMMETT WALTZ who died on September 24, 2009.

If you have a claim against this estate, you must file your claim by January 22, 2010 and provide details of your claim with Beverly Nowicki, B123 S310 RR3, Stony Plain, AB., T7Z 1X3.

If you do not file by the date above, the estate property can be lawfully distributed without regard to any claim you may have.

0515. Notices

NOTICE TO PERSONS who are or may be beneficiaries of The Sawridge Band Inter-Vivos Settlement (1985) or beneficiaries of The Sawridge Trust (1986). The beneficiaries of The Sawridge Band Inter-Vivos Settlement at any particular time are all persons who at that time qualify as members of The Sawridge Indian Band No. 454 pursuant to The Indian Act R.S.C. 1970, Chapter I-6 as such provisions existed on the 15th day of April, 1982 and, in the event that such provisions are amended after April 15, 1985, all persons at such particular time as would qualify for such membership pursuant to the said provisions as they existed on April 15, 1985. The beneficiaries of The Sawridge Trust at any particular time are all persons who at that time qualify as members of The Sawridge Indian Band under the laws of Canada in force at that time, including the membership rules and customary laws of The Sawridge Indian Band as they may exist from time to time to the extent that such membership rules and customary laws are incorporated into, or recognized by the laws of Canada. All person who believe that they qualify or may qualify as beneficiaries of either or both of the The Sawridge Band Inter-Vivos Settlement or The Sawridge Trust are asked to contact Paul Bujold, Trust Administrator by mail at 801, 4445 Calgary Trail NW, Edmonton, AB, T6H 5R7 or by email at Paul@sawridgetrusts.ca or by telephone at 780-988-7723 or by fax at 780-988-7724 listing the particulars supporting their claim to be a beneficiary of The Sawridge Band Inter-Vivos Settlement or The Sawridge Trust.

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1500. Help Wanted - Prov.

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1005. Help Wanted

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Overview. Oversee operations of the Club House. Manager will be responsible for the day to day operations of the Club House and be reporting directly to the executive of the Elk Point Golf and Country Club. Duties and wages will be discussed upon approval of applications.

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1005. Help Wanted

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1005. Help Wanted

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1005. Help Wanted

1005. Help Wanted

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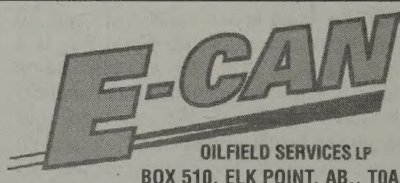
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County discusses tippage fees

By JANICE HUSER

Review Contributor

At last week's regular council meeting, County of St. Paul council discussed the increase in tippage fees that has occurred at the Evergreen Regional landfill, which has resulted in a \$10 per tonne increase for members of the Evergreen Regional Waste Management Services Commission.

Members include the County and Town of St. Paul, along with the Town of Elk Point and a number other municipalities in the surrounding area.

The tippage fees at the landfill have increased from \$50 per tonne to \$60 per tonne for members of Evergreen and for members of the Beaver River waste management commission, who receive a member fee as part of its agreement with Evergreen.

There was also an increase in tippage

fees that occurred last year, said Reeve Robert Bouchard, who is also the chairperson of the Evergreen waste management commission.

Dennis Bergheim, manager of the landfill, was on hand to answer questions from county council and offer information about the increase. The increases have come about due to the costs of one ratepayer's appeal of Alberta Environment's approval of Evergreen's Lafond landfill.

The appeal is to be heard in front of the Environmental Appeals Board next month in St. Paul. The increase in tippage fees, according to Coun. Frank Sloan, could be a factor when considering the mill rate for waste management that is paid by taxpayers.

So far, the costs incurred this year are about \$220,000, while last year an additional \$70,000 was incurred, explained

Bergheim.

"It will escalate to over \$300,000," he told council of the costs.

"The trouble is, you don't plan for that kind of expense," said Sloan, in response to hearing the figures. Some councilors weren't happy with the amount of money being spent on the appeals process.

"One appellant has cost the taxpayers nearly \$300,000," said Coun. Glen Ockerman, while Bouchard added that the costs could escalate if the appeals board puts conditions on the landfill after the hearing.

"Every member of the commission is in the same board... Now they're all pissed off," said Bouchard.

However, when the appeals process is finished, Bergheim said he anticipated that tippage fees would be reduced back to previous levels.

Critters coming Thursday

By VICKI BROOKER

Review Staff

The CFCW Critters will be rolling into town for a fun and frantic hockey game against the Elk Point RCMP on Thursday, Dec. 17 at the A. G. Ross Arena, where action gets underway at 7 p.m.

Volunteers from both the Elk Point Chamber of Commerce and the Water Spray Park committee will be working on this event, and will share the proceeds, with the chamber's portion going toward completion of the Eco Centre.

Chamber president Sandy Smith says there will be "quite a few fundraising things in the arena" in addition to the game itself, and both groups are looking forward to being part of the event.

The CFCW Critters tour a number of rural communities each winter, helping to raise funds for worthy causes, and the two Elk Point groups were very excited that Elk Point was chosen as part of this winter's tour.

The Elk Point Visitor Information EcoCentre is

nearing completion, but will need additional funds to add the finishing touches to the building, while the Water Spray Park is still in the preliminary fundraising stage and the committee hopes to have enough cash in the kitty to match the grants they have applied for and allow an early spring start on construction of the project.

Come on down to the arena and support two great causes while you enjoy a great evening of entertainment and some hilarious hockey action. It's sure to be fun!

County shrugs off claim of 'derogatory remarks'

(Continued from Page 2)

Kitz explained to council last week that she did contact the county's legal counsel.

"Our legal counsel has suggested that we confirm that (Shapka's) concerns will be made known to the returning officer for the next election," said Kitz. A charge or prosecution under the act would require a decision of the Alberta Department of Justice, she added.

The County of St. Paul does not have the authority to lay such a charge or prosecute it. Bouchard wasn't in favour of pursuing the matter, saying, "Free speech seems to be a problem when it's directed to him (Shapka)."

But Fodness noted the situation did occur at a polling station during the voting process, and feels

that what Young allegedly did is a "serious offence."

"No one here knows the facts, so you don't know if it's a serious offence," said Ockerman.

Fodness responded by stating the Election Act "is clear about how people are to conduct themselves inside a polling station."

When contacted, Young declined to comment on the issue, only saying of what he told Shapka, "All I told him was the truth."

After discussing the issue further, council chose not to take the complaint to the Alberta Department of Justice. Council did agree to notify the returning officer of the next election that the site in question might not be a suitable one for a polling station.



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Vicki Brooker photo

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